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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/549,667	04/14/2000	Douglas K. Warner	5483.00	8856

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DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
50 SOUTH SIXTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-1498

EXAMINER

CHEN, TE Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2171

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.
09/549,667

Applicant(s)
Warner et al.

Examiner
T. Chen

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2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED May 15, 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid the abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

THE PERIOD FOR REPLY [check only a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
- (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____

4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
The argument is not persuasive. Please refer to the attached Appendix.

6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☒ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: _____

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

10. ☐ Other: _____

SAFET METJAHIC
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

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APPENDIX

1. This is in response to amendment filed on 05/15/2002 (paper # 12).
2. Claims 1-33 remain for examination.
3. Regarding Applicant's arguments with respect to the 102 rejections, the examiner disagrees with applicant's assertion that the prior art on record, including de Hita et al. (U.S. Patent No, 6081,774), fails to disclose or suggest a system for "providing a database having one or more record items define relationships between originating locations from which help requests are originated and corresponding ones of the plurality of help informational items, and the one or more record entries each including an associated relationship strength value based on historical frequency of selection of respective the corresponding ones of the plurality of help informational items during a help information retrieval session initiated from the originating locations".
4. In response to this argument, the examiner regards that the claimed limitation is fully disclosed by de Hita et al. (hereinafter referred as de Hita). Applicant's attention is directed to Fig. 1, wherein, de Hita specifically discloses a virtual database [199, Fig. 1] being coupled to the natural language interface for help software developer's kit [NLIH SDK, 140, Fig. 1], from this kit, a software developer [110, Fig. 1] creates and stores the help topics (or project) into a binary

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database index and user files [130, 135, Fig. 1], to assist the user of the software application. The database [130, 135, 199, Fig. 1; col. 6, lines 16-34] has one or more record entries, the one or more record entries defining relationships between originating locations from which help requests are originated and corresponding ones of the plurality of help informational items [col. 3, lines 56- col. 4, line 2; 530, Fig. 5; col. 12, lines 20-30, 33-48, Fig(s) 10-15]. And, the one or more record entries each include an associated relationship strength value based on historical frequency of selection of respective corresponding ones of the plurality of help informational items during a help information retrieval session initiated from the originating locations [col. 3, lines 56- col. 4, line 2; col. 4, lines 40-47; Fig. 13]. De Hita further discloses that the database is coupled to a navigation interface [col. 6, lines 37-45; 180, Fig. 1], which is adapted to, upon detection of a user initiation of a help information retrieval session [e.g., a help browser session, Fig. 1] from the system. De Hita further discloses determining whether one or more matching record entries exist in the database for the viewed informational item [420, Fig.4], and provide an access to one or more associated help informational items corresponding to the originating location according to the one or more matched record entries [col. 6, lines 30-34]. Thus, based on the combined discussions cited above, the examiner maintains the same rejections.



SAFET METJAHIC
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100